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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

International Patent Application  
No. PCT/EP03/14548

PCT/DO/EO/US

International Filing Date: December 18, 2003

Attorney Docket: THIE3020/JEK

Applicant: Bernard Paul Joseph THIERS

For: FLOOR PANEL, ITS LAYING AND MANUFACTURING METHODS

**PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT BEFORE EXAMINATION**

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

**INTRODUCTORY COMMENTS**

This paper accompanies documents submitted to initiate national stage processing of the above-identified international patent application.

**AMENDMENTS**

**IN THE SPECIFICATION:**

The specification is amended as shown below under the heading AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION.

**IN THE ABSTRACT:**

An abstract is added below under the heading ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE.

**IN THE CLAIMS:**

Before calculation of the filing fee and examination of the application, please amend the claims as shown in the following LIST OF CURRENT CLAIMS, which indicates the status of all the claims in the application and all amendments to the claims. Any cancellation of claims is made without prejudice or disclaimer. Applicant reserves all rights to the original disclosed and claimed subject matter. None of the amendments are intended to narrow the scope of any of the original claims.